

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0027] with the following amended paragraph:

[0027] In general, there are horizontally disposed tubular members 30a and vertically disposed tubular members 30b. In order to convey airflow to the surface of the sports equipment to be dried or conditioned, a plurality of apertures 40 are disposed in the tubular members 30 at locations where pieces of sports equipment will be positioned. In order to ensure that the airflow is effectively conveyed to the surface of the sports equipment, a plurality of pegs 50 or other support elements are provided which extend a distance above the surface of the tubular members 30 where the apertures 40 are located. Several of the tubular members 30 serve as airflow receiving members 60 and are mounted to and interconnected with the base 20 to receive the airflow into the tubular members 30 of the apparatus 10. Slidable gates 85 [[26]] are disposed on the base 20 to cut off airflow to individual horizontal tubular members 30a, depending on the desired configuration of the tubular members 30 of the apparatus 10.

Please replace paragraph [0033] with the following amended paragraph:

[0033] In accordance with another feature of the present invention, Fig. 3 illustrates a feature of the present invention in which the tubular members 30 may be rotated so as to allow the apparatus 10 to conform to a particular location, such as a portion of a garage, a closet or the cargo space of a vehicle. As illustrated by the solid and broken line representations of the various tubular members 30 along with the curved, double-headed arrows depicting movement, the horizontal tubular members 30a may be rotated in a horizontal plane, and the vertical tubular members 30b may be rotated in a generally vertical plane. As should be evident, the tubular members 30 may also be constructed so that they could be collapsed, i.e., shortened, or lengthened, depending on the space to which the apparatus 10 must conform or the size and shape of the sports equipment that the apparatus 10 accommodates. In other words, the position and length of the tubular members 30 of the present invention may be adjusted to conform to the space available or desired for the apparatus 10 or to conform to the dimensions of particular items of sports equipment or apparel.

In re Appln. of Rousseau et al.

Application No. 10/805,939

Amendment in Response to Final Office Action of January 10, 2006

Please replace paragraph [0035] with the following amended paragraph:

[0035] The size and flow volume capacity of the fan or blower 80 should be adequate to properly dry equipment in a timely fashion. The size and quantity of the apertures 40 are in direct proportion to the size of the fan or blower 80 that is used. An ionized air source⁹⁵ (FIG. 2) may also be used.